

a plurality of personal computers, one for each of the
5 users, each of said plurality of personal computers including
computer file review means, at least one of said personal
computers being designated host computer for given file
editing operations and having multi-tasking processing means
for coordinating the execution of said file editing operations
10 comprising edits of less than the entirety of a given computer
file inputted by at least the user of one of said personal
computers, and for coordinating the transfer of data
corresponding with and limited to said file editing operations
from said host computer to the others of said plurality of
15 personal computers whereby said file editing operations and
said corresponding limited data transfer are performed in a
predetermined manner by said host computer; and

interconnecting means for electrically interconnecting
said host computer with the others of said plurality of
20 personal computers to permit transmission of electrical
signals corresponding with said file editing operations
therebetween;

wherein said plurality of users are permitted to
concurrently view said given computer file and, subject to
25 practical system limitations, said computer file review means,
multi-tasking processing means and interconnecting means
operate so that said file editing operations and said
corresponding limited data transfer occur on a substantially
real-time basis relative to said edit inputs to permit said

Subj
El
Cont.

30 plurality of users at said different remote locations to review with their respective review means said edits made to said given computer file substantially contemporaneously with the corresponding input of said edits and execution of said file editing operations.

9. (four times amended) A system for contemporaneously editing a given computer file by any of a plurality of users, comprising:

Subj
El
Cont.

5 a plurality of personal computers, one for each of the users, each of said personal computers including means for inputting edits to said given computer file and means for displaying said given computer file, at least one of said personal computers being designated host computer and having multi-tasking processing means for coordinating the execution 10 of file editing operations comprising edits of less than the entirety of said given computer file from the inputting means of any of said personal computers and the transfer of data corresponding with and limited to said file editing operations from said at least one of said personal computers to the 15 others of said plurality of personal computers; and

interconnecting means comprising a non-dedicated digital communications system for transferring said data digitally between said host computer and said others of said plurality of personal computers;

20

Sub J3

wherein said plurality of users are permitted to concurrently view said given computer file and, subject to practical system limitations, said [means] inputting means, display means, multi-tasking processing means and interconnecting means operate so that said file editing operations and said corresponding limited data transfer occur on a substantially real-time basis relative to said edit inputs to permit said plurality of users at their respective remote locations to review with their respective display means said given computer file reflecting said edits made thereto substantially contemporaneously with the corresponding input of said edits and file editing operations.

30

E2

Cont.

18. (thrice amended) A method for contemporaneously editing a given computer file from any of a plurality of personal computers situated at different remote locations, wherein at least one of said personal computers has multi-tasking capabilities and one of said [at least one of said] personal computers is designated as host computer, comprising the steps of:

5

E3

electrically interconnecting the host computer with the others of said plurality of personal computers over a communications network;

10

inputting editing instructions which constitute edits to less than the entire given computer file into one of said personal computers;

15 receiving, at the host computer, the editing instructions which have been input;

editing the file in accordance with the instructions; and transferring data corresponding with the file editing instructions from the host computer to the remaining ones of said plurality of personal computers over the communications network;

E3
Cont.
20 wherein said plurality of users are permitted to concurrently view said given computer file and, subject to practical system limitations, said editing step and said transferring step occur on a substantially real-time basis 25 relative to said edit input so as to permit said data to be reviewed at each personal computer in said different remote locations substantially contemporaneously with the corresponding input of edits and execution of file editing operations.

E4
23. (thrice amended) An interactive editing system for a plurality of users at different remote locations for permitting any of the users to orally provide file editing instructions comprising edits to less than an entire given computer file, and for permitting substantially contemporaneous viewing of the editing, relative to the edit inputs, by all of the users, comprising:

voice communication means, in one-to-one correspondence with the users, for transmitting audio signals representative 10 of any user's voice and said orally provided file editing instructions to each of the others of said plurality of users;

a personal computer, having multi-tasking processing means and a display, for use by one of the users to input and execute the editing instructions orally provided by the others 15 of said plurality of users;

a plurality of remote terminals, one for use by each of the remaining ones of said plurality of users and each having a display; and

interconnecting means for electrically interconnecting 20 said personal computer with each of said remote terminals and for transferring data corresponding with the file editing instructions, comprising edits to less than an entire given computer file, between said personal computer and said remote terminals;

25 wherein said plurality of users are permitted to concurrently view said given computer file and, subject to practical system limitations, said file editing instruction execution and said corresponding data transfer occur on a substantially real-time basis relative to said edit inputs to 30 permit said plurality of users at said different remote locations to view edits made to a given computer file substantially contemporaneously with said edit inputs and the execution of said file editing instructions.

E4
Cont.